

MINUTES
UTAH
HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALIST BOARD
MEETING

October 10, 2007

Room 402 – 4th Floor - 9:00 a.m.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

CONVENED: 9:01 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 10:14 a.m.

Bureau Manager:

Clyde Ormond

Board Secretary:

Jacky Adams

Board Members Present:

Lowell Brown, Chairperson
Morris Mower
Kent Milligan
David Simmons

Board Members Absent:

Paul Littlefield

Guests:

Michael Monahan, Accurate Hearing
Jordan Bigler, Accurate Hearing
Douglas Christensen, Accurate Hearing
Mike Lloyd, Edison Stanford
Paul Lloyd, Edison Stanford
Amber Lloyd, Edison Stanford

DOPL Staff Present:

F David Stanley, Division Director

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:
MINUTES:

Mr. Morrow seconded by Mr. Milligan made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 11, 2007 meeting, the motion carried unanimously.

Swear in New Board Member

Mr. Ormond issued the Oath of Office to Mr. Simmons, and welcomed him to the Board.

APPOINTMENTS:

9:15 a.m. Bigler, Jordan - Darlene Saiz - Supervisor

Mr. Bigler appeared for his scheduled appointment with the Board. Mr. Ormond reviewed Mr. Bigler's application for licensure as a Hearing Instrument Intern with Ms. Darlene Saiz as his supervisor. Mr. Ormond then added that Ms. Saiz currently has one intern, who is

on indirect supervision.

After a detailed discussion Mr. Mower seconded by Mr. Milligan made a motion to approve Ms. Saiz as Mr. Bigler's Hearing Instrument Internship supervisor, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Bigler was then given a "Supervisor Log" to help him and Ms. Saiz track his internship hours.

9:30 a.m. Christensen, Douglas - David Magriplis - Supervisor

Mr. Christensen appeared for his scheduled appointment with the Board. Mr. Ormond reviewed Mr. Christensen's application for licensure as a Hearing Instrument Intern, with Mr. David Magriplis as his supervisor, who currently has one intern under indirect supervision. Mr. Ormond explained that Mr. Christensen has been licensed in Colorado since August 2006.

Mr. Ormond commented that Mr. Christensen admitted to entering into plea in abeyance agreement in October 2005, for a Domestic Violence Criminal Mischief charge, the charge was later dismissed.

After a detailed discussion Mr. Milligan seconded by Mr. Morrow made a motion to approve Mr. Magriplis as Mr. Christensen's Hearing Instrument Internship supervisor, the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Christensen was then given a "Supervisor Log" to help him and Mr. Magriplis track his internship hours.

9:45 a.m. Lloyd, Amber - Ephraim Lloyd - Supervisor

Ms. Lloyd appeared for her scheduled appointment with the Board. Mr. Ormond reviewed Ms. Lloyd's application for licensure as a Hearing Instrument Intern with Mr. Ephraim Lloyd as her supervisor. Mr. Ormond then added that Mr. Lloyd currently does not have any interns.

Mr. Simmons questioned the Board if there was a restriction in Statute or Rule that would prohibit Mr. Lloyd from being Ms. Lloyd's supervisor, due to their marital status. The Board did not feel this was an issue, based on the number of family owned and operated establishments.

After a detailed discussion Mr. Mower seconded by Mr. Simmons made a motion to approve Mr. Lloyd as Ms. Lloyd's Hearing Instrument Internship supervisor, the motion carried unanimously. Ms. Lloyd was then given a "Supervisor Log" to help her and Mr. Lloyd track her internship hours.

CORRESPONDENCE:

American Academy of Audiology –
“Audioprosthologist”

Mr. Ormond reviewed a letter which was received by the Division, on May 14, 2007, from the AAA (American Academy of Audiology). The letter indicated that AAA felt that the use of "Audioprosthologist" by a licensee who is not an Audiologist could significantly mislead consumers to believe that the licensee is an Audiologist. The letter further suggested that use of this term by anyone who is not a licensed Audiologist should be prohibited. Mr. Ormond then questioned the Board to determine if use of this term should be considered "Unprofessional Conduct", the Board strongly disagreed. Mr. Brown and Mr. Mike Lloyd explained that there are approximately eight Hearing Instrument Specialists within the State of Utah who use this title, and all of these licensees have undergone an extensive training course.

Mr. Ormond questioned the Board to determine if the public could ever be led to believe that a licensee who uses this term is an Audiologist. The Board felt that this term should be allowed, based on the experience and education required to obtain this certification. Mr. Simmons commented that a patient will believe what they want regarding the educational background of a licensee, it is the licensees' responsibility to correct the patient on this subject. He then added that he felt that this was the Audiology profession trying to protect its self, not a public safety issue, the remainder of the Board agreed.

It was then determined that Mr. Ormond will request an opinion from the Attorney Generals office on this issue, then report his findings to the Board at the January 9, 2008 meeting.

After the meeting adjourned Mr. Ormond determined that using the term of “Audioprosthologist” was not considered to be unprofessional conduct by rule. However, he was still concerned that this term could mislead the public, to believe that a Hearing Instrument Specialist is an Audiologist.

International Hearing Society – Distance Learning
Program

Reviewed, with no further action taken.

Proposed Rules

Mr. Brown explained that Ms. Saiz is no longer the President of the Utah Hearing Healthcare Providers of Utah Society, at this time a new president has not been elected.

Mr. Mike Lloyd explained that he is the scheduler of the raters for the practical exam. He requested for all questions and concerns to be directed through him. Mr. Lloyd then asked Mr. Ormond if there was a Statute or Rule requirement which would prohibit an unlicensed individual from taking this exam. Mr. Ormond explained that there was not, adding that restricting an individual from taking the exam could cause legal issues for Utah Hearing Healthcare Providers of Utah Society. If the Utah Hearing Healthcare Providers of Utah Society wanted to allow only licensed Hearing Instrument Interns or Specialists to take the practical exam, this would require a Statute change. Mr. Ormond further added that he would discuss this issue with Ms. Epstein, Assistant Attorney General representative, and report to the Board at the January 9, 2008 meeting.

Mr. Mike Lloyd also questioned if a Hearing Instrument Intern could take the practical exam, and go directly to indirect supervision, without any direct supervision. Mr. Ormond stated that this is the way the Statute and Rules are written. If the Board and Utah Hearing Healthcare Providers of Utah Society wished to make this change it would require a Statute change. Mr. Ormond will also discuss the issue with Ms. Epstein.

ADJOURN: 10:14 a.m.

Mr. Simmons seconded by Mr. Milligan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, the motion carried unanimously.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

January 9, 2008

Date Approved

(ss) Lowell Brown

Chairperson, Utah Hearing Instrument Specialist Board

January 9, 2008

Date Approved

(ss) Clyde Ormond

Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational &
Professional Licensing